

Southern Flyer



908th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., Vol. 41, Issue 4, April 2004

Top wing leadership post changes hands this UTA

By Jeff Melvin
908AW public affairs

Col. Heath J. Nuckolls assumes command of the 908th Airlift Wing from Col. James N. Stewart during a ceremony Saturday, April 3. The change of command ceremony will be held at Squadron Officer College's Polifka Auditorium at 1 p.m.

Colonel Nuckolls isn't a stranger to the area, the mission or filling Colonel Stewart's shoes. He takes the reins of command here on the heels of commanding the 94th Operations Group at Dobbins ARB, Ga., a position Colonel Stewart held also. At the 94th Colonel Nuckolls managed over 310 military and civilian personnel, nine C-130 aircraft, and a \$4.6 million budget to accomplish the 94th Airlift Wing's formal schoolhouse mission to provide qualified C-130 aircrew members.

Things have changed slightly since his first visits to Maxwell years ago but the new commander said "one thing that has remained constant is the high caliber people in the unit and within the command."

Sustaining that reputation for excellence will require a combined effort.

"We must all work together to ensure that the 908th remains in a high state of combat readiness and is able to meet any challenge set before it. Your pride in the part each of you played in the wing's successes is well deserved; however, there is still much more to do. I look forward to working with each of you to ensure the 908th's

proud legacy as one of Air Force Reserve Command's best wings continues," Colonel Nuckolls said, talking about his new job.

Colonel Nuckolls was commissioned in 1982 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

He served more than

seven years on active duty before joining the Air Force Reserves in 1990. After his departure from active duty service, Colonel Nuckolls started his air reserve technician career with the 403rd Airlift Wing, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., as C-130 instructor pilot, flight examiner, and squadron tactics officer.

He then served a short

stint as airlift operations officer at Headquarters 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas, before heading to Dobbins ARB in May 1997.

At Dobbins, Colonel Nuckolls served as tactical airlift operations manager and chief, standards and evaluations at Headquarters 22nd AF before com-

manding the 94th Operations Group.

Colonel Nuckolls is a command pilot with more than 3,960 hours in T-37, T-38, C-130E/H2, AC-130H, and WC-130H aircraft.

Family ties bind him to the area as well. His wife, Julie, hails from Montgomery. They have two children.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Medical squadrons polish lifesaving skills

From left, Tech. Sgt. Apen Phillips, Senior Airman James Chaney and Master Sgt. Steve McKinney, 908AES aeromedical evacuation technicians, simulate performing pre-flight function checks on equipment before an aero-

medical evacuation mission. The AETs took part in the contingency aeromedical staging facility exercise conducted March 7. See Pages 4 and 5 for more on the CASF exercise.

Thank you for memories; you will continue to excel



By Col. James Stewart
908th Airlift Wing commander

Two years...how quickly they've flown by! It has been a wonderful experience to come home to Montgomery, and to command this great wing whose motto each and every one of you have lived up to, "Ready...Always!" We've been through much together over the past two years, with deployments, inspections and finally our activation.

While I'm excited about the upcoming challenges at the 514th, with more people, the KC-10 tanker mission, and the transition to the C-17, the downside is

leaving all of you. It has been a wonderful experience for the whole Stewart family to return home. All of the members of our wing, 42d Air Base Wing, Air University, and our partners in the community have been extremely friendly and supportive. Thanks to you all!

As I leave, the wing is finishing one overseas rotation and starting to cycle people back out on another. There are challenging times ahead, but I leave confident that my replacement will continue the 908th Airlift

Wing's fine tradition of excellence.

You shouldn't miss a beat during this transition. I've known Colonel Heath Nuckolls for years and there is a reason he's been picked to come lead this wing...he's proven he's ready! He and I have been working to make sure he's informed on all our issues. He will be ready to lead all of you wonderful patriots when the flag is passed this weekend.

I'm leaving my family here...at home, in Montgomery, so I'm not going to say goodbye...but merely, "see ya'll later."

New commander delighted to take charge of storied wing; sees teamwork as key to maintaining legacy of excellence

Let me begin by stating how delighted I am to be here at the 908th. I'm no stranger. I have a bit of history with the base and the local area from many years ago.

Things have changed slightly since then but one thing that has remained constant is the high caliber people in the unit and within the command.

Our senior leaders speak glowingly about the motivation and focus of our reservists during this demanding period in our history. We are doing more on a global scale than ever before. You can look around the wing and see that everyday.

We are facing new challenges both as a command and as a unit. How we deal with these challenges speaks volumes as to the character of an organization. Even before I assumed command, I heard outstanding accounts of the 908th performance...the UCI as well as organizational and

individual performance while deployed just to name a few. The point to remember is that it's easy for us to say that we are "good" but it is another issue for people outside the organization to recognize that fact. You don't have to tell people that you are outstanding; you are showing them that you are.

It is also important to remember that the single most important resource in the wing is YOU. Good things don't just happen by themselves. They happen because you make them happen. Replacing equipment is a simple matter. Experience and knowledge, however, can't be replaced. Organizations can't operate at peak performance without

individual members doing their jobs and doing them well. As the wing commander, I feel it is my responsibility to provide you with the necessary resources and tools to do your jobs. If you need assistance, let your supervisors and commanders know.

We must all work together to ensure that the 908th remains in a high state of combat readiness and is able to meet any challenge set before it. Your pride in the part each of you played in the wing's successes is well deserved; however, there is still much more to do. I look forward to working with each of you to ensure the 908th's proud legacy as one of Air Force Reserve Command's best wings continues.



By Col. Heath Nuckolls
New 908th Airlift Wing commander

Ceremony, exercise lead to combined services this month

This UTA is going to be hopping with activity.

We start out the weekend by saying goodbye to our wing commander. Our thoughts and prayers go with Colonel Stewart and his family as he moves to McGuire. During the same ceremony we will eagerly welcome our new wing commander, Colonel Nuckolls, as our

new leader. Our prayers and support are also with him and his family as he takes this new responsibility.

Then on Sunday we are going to have an attack response exercise. Because of the timing of the events our worship services will change for this UTA. We are only going to have one service this month. We will meet from 0800 to 0830 in Classroom 2 of the APS building (Building 846). This

change is for April only and will be a great opportunity for everyone from our three normal services to worship together. Come out and join with us for this inspirational service - what a great way to start an exercise.

Please continue to lift up in prayer the families, and all our friends who are activated and deployed all over the world.



By Chaplain (Capt.) Jamie Danford
908th Airlift Wing staff chaplain



**Commander,
908th Airlift Wing**
Col. James N. Stewart

**Editorial Staff
Chief, Public Affairs**

Maj. Jerry W. Lobb
**Deputy Chief/
Editor**
Jeffery Melvin

Address

Editor, "Southern Flyer"
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Phone Number

(334) 953-6804
or DSN 493-6804

Fax Number

(334) 953-2202
or DSN 493-2202

E-mail

908@southernflyer@maxwell.af.mil

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Southern Flyer" are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial policy

Editorial content of the "Southern Flyer" is edited, prepared and provided by the 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies.

Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the UTA. The submission deadline for articles or information is the Wednesday two weeks prior to the UTA.

For information about this schedule, call Jeff Melvin at (334) 953-7874.



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

Bubba gets a close up look at longtime friend Maj. Denver Nolin in action.



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

"Lt. Col." Rick at the helm.

Wing flies high with Rick and Bubba

Five cast members of the Rick and Bubba morning show flew on a 908th C-130 during a tactical airdrop training mission March 4. Rick and Bubba, their producer Speedy, Don Juan Demarco and Christopher Columbus took to the air over central Alabama. They watched as two aircraft each dropped a Hummer, and later tried out night vision goggles as the crew completed an NVG training profile. The flight was



Photo by Jeff Melvin

New 'aircrew' -- from left, Don Juan, Rick, Bubba and Speedy.



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

Majs. Denver Nolin and Steve "Stretch" Catchings grab some grub and some air time.

made possible thanks in part to the efforts of 357AS C-130 pilot Maj. Denver Nolin, who has known Bill "Bubba" Bussey since childhood. Major Nolin and fellow pilot Maj. Steve Catchings traveled to Birmingham the next morning and were on the radio show and Turner South television for about an hour talking about the flight, the 908th Airlift Wing and Air Force Reserve. Video of the preparations, flight and equipment drop were shown on Turner South. In addition, Rick and Bubba spent about 15 minutes March 8 talking to Ollie North about their flight. The Rick and Bubba show is one of the nation's top 20 syndicated radio shows.

DoD temporarily extends TRICARE eligibility following active duty to 180 days

TRICARE eligibility for some active duty and Reserve Component members separating from active duty service is temporarily extended under the Department of Defense Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) from 60 or 120 days to 180 days.

The enhanced TRICARE provision began Nov. 6, 2003, and ends Dec. 31, 2004.

Eligible sponsors and family members must be enrolled in the De-

fense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Former active duty and Reserve Component members who are eligible for transitional benefits may receive dental care at military dental treatment facilities on a space-available basis only. Family members are not eligible for dental care at these facilities. Civilian dental care is not a covered benefit for sponsors or family members under the transitional program. Certain members of the

Reserve Component and their family members may, however, receive dental care by enrolling in the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP). To determine eligibility and get additional information, contact the TDP administrator, United Concordia Companies, Inc. at (800) 866-8499 or at www.ucci.com.

Sponsors and family members who need help understanding their TRICARE benefits or processing TRICARE claims, may contact their

regional TRICARE beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator. A list of BCAC names and telephone numbers for assistance is available at www.tricare.osd.mil/bcacdirectory.cfm. Additional information on TRICARE and the Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program is available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/ and the Reserve Component Web site at www.defenselink.mil/ra. (Source: TRICARE News Release)

Medical squadrons sharpen patient care, transport skills

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing's Aeromedical Staging and Aeromedical Evacuation Squadrons polished their lifesaving skills by conducting a contingency aeromedical staging facility exercise near the Maxwell AFB flight line March 6.

A CASF is a 24-hour medical holding and staging facility. Medical practitioners staffing a CASF expedite the treatment of the wounded by assessing the nature of their injuries, providing first aid, and prioritizing the movement of patients to a medical facility based on their conditions.

The contingency aeromedical staging facility event was held to help train and maintain proficiency of squadron members, so they will be ready to deploy if called.

Approximately 80 unit reservists including medical, services, communications and security forces personnel participate in the training with 20 more acting as patients. To add additional realism and training value for the exercise, Army National Guard personnel provided vehicles to simulate transporting patients from the forward area to the evacuation location and Army aviators from Ft. Rucker medical evacuation school provided helicopters support simulating transporting patients to the contingency aeromedical staging facility.



Litter bearers get ready to offload simulated injured patients from helicopter.



Litter bearer Master Sgt. Teresa Stone, comforts a patient before moving her to a bed in the CASF.



Clinical nurse Capt. Cynthia Lewis performs initial patient assessment and emergency stabilization of a simulated casualty.



Staff Sgt. Stien.



Photos by Jeff Melvin



Deployment officer Maj. Kirsten James, far right, oversees the loading of patients into awaiting ambulances.



Senior Airman Benjamin Torres 'staffs the complaint department.'



Tanya Spell, left, and Master Sgt. Teresa Murrell staff the pharmacy sta-



Flight nurse Maj. Janet Broom talks about the exercise to a local TV station.

Air Force transportation reservists hit road to help Army

Editor's note: Five members of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron members Transportation Flight are among the group of reservists assisting the Army.

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Air Force reservists are gearing up to help the U.S. Army move people and cargo in Iraq.

Air Force Reserve Command activated 67 vehicle operators Jan. 16, in response to the Army's request for supplemental transporters. The reservists completed phase II of their pre-deployment training provided by the Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Fort Dix, N.J. They deployed to Kuwait in February.

"We couldn't have filled these requirements without the help of the Air Force Reserve Command and the Air National Guard," said Capt. Harley Smith of the Air Expeditionary Force Center's Transportation Section, Langley AFB, Va. "Our collective Air Force transportation community is traveling down a new road with filling our sister service's requirements."

Active-duty and reserve



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Transportation Flight drivers pose for a group shot prior to their departure Feb. 12. In a recent e-mail, Tech Sgt. John reported, "Everyone is doing fine. He added that the group received training on Combat Convoy Operations and that they passed their evaluation and received certification.

components are lending about 480 vehicle operators, on a rotational basis, to the Army for one year. The tours are scheduled to last about 179 days but can be up to 220 days, depending on the length of the additional required training in country. Also, the Air Force is meeting the Army's other support requirements including civil engineering, communications and security forces support.

"Some of the Army troops

have been over in Iraq for about a year and a half," said Vehicle Operator Senior Airman Brad Fletcher of the 445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. "They have a family - wife, kids to get back home to. Going for six months, doing my part, is fine with me."

"Citizen Airmen balance the demands of their military service with those of their families and civilian employers," said Col. Elizabeth Grote, AFRC's director of

Logistics. "This is a Total Force effort, and our people are doing a terrific job to make this mission a success."

Building an Army truck company with Air Force people involves more than just filling slots with Air Force transporters, said Captain Smith. "Considerable thought has gone into team building and adequately preparing our Air Force drivers for the Army environment," he said.

In order to be fully qualified to conduct the transportation missions in a hostile environment, reservists from 14 bases throughout the command attended the Army's vehicle operations courses at Fort Leonard Wood, in January and Fort Dix's Air Mobility Warfare Center in February. The first course included training in contingency operations, driving 5-ton trucks and tractor-trailer vehicles, and basic convoy and night vision operations. In the second course, the reservists received advanced training, including combat tactics, survival training and Global Positioning System mapping technology.

Now that the initial

training is complete, the activated Air Force reservists have joined their active-duty counterparts in Kuwait for additional critical training. The reservists went through several days of weapons training, ranging from close-quarters marksmanship to firing weapons from a moving vehicle. Then they participated in convoy live-fire training that simulated some of the conditions they may face during the deployment.

"The top military leadership wants to ensure every Airman has the training necessary before he or she goes forward and takes over missions the Army has been conducting for the past year and a half," said Chief Master Sgt. Tim Stern, Air Force vehicle maintenance functional manager in the Pentagon. "I'm confident our Airmen and NCOs can do all that is required."

Typically, AFRC's vehicle operators are responsible for operating base support vehicles in a secure environment. This includes buses, base taxis, tractor trailers and various material handling vehicles. (AFRC News Service)

Airmen learn convoy skills: *Specialized training enhances survivability, odds of mission accomplishment*

by Senior Airman James C. Dillard
386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) -- The grizzled, old retired Army instructor imparted combat wisdom to his students, as if he were reading directly from the combat bible.

The most important thing he wanted them to take away from the training was when they drive into combat areas, they better look like death coming down the road. A threatening target is much less inviting than a meek one.

The students were at the end of a five-day course. Each of them was covered in countless layers of sand, and they looked like they had been through days of combat. Despite lack of sleep, fatigue and poor living conditions, their eyes were bright with excitement and relief. It was finished.

But, the true test was just beginning.

The course, held by Military Professional

Resources Inc., is taught in the middle of nowhere in Southwest Asia. The course's basic function is to teach servicemembers how to survive while conducting convoy operations in potentially hostile locations.

"Without a doubt, this program will help save lives," said John Fracassini, an instructor for MPRI and retired Army Special Forces member. "I think it's absolutely critical for them to take this course. It enhances their survivability, as well as the odds of mission accomplishment."

For the Airmen in the course, the training will be put to direct use. Deployed from bases worldwide, the Airmen are part of a program to augment Army convoy operations in Iraq.

The instruction includes both classroom and field training.

Both portions of the course work in tandem to maximize the effectiveness of the training.

During the final day of

training, the students are put through the live-fire exercise. The exercise allows the Airmen to apply what they learned in the classroom.

The course included training the Airmen on what they should do if an assault on a convoy results in injuries. The Airmen practiced securing an area, treating the wounded and assessing their condition. They also learned how to set up a landing zone for medical evacuation.

"The fundamentals we're learning keep us better prepared for contingency operations in Iraq," said Staff Sgt. Lawrence Prieto who is deployed from Peterson AFB, Colo. "A lot of us haven't gone through this training, and we needed to."

But armed attacks are not the only threat the course deals with. It also introduces students to improvised explosive devices.

"A good portion of the training is geared toward learning how to deal with IEDs," Mr. Fracassini said.

Regardless of what branch of the military Americans are serving in, those fighting in Iraq and Southwest Asia have one common goal: staying alive. Learning to see there is less of a defining line between the services is part of

learning to achieve this goal.

"The Iraqi people need our help," Sergeant Larson said. "Whether you're [in the] Air Force or Army, it doesn't matter. In the end, we're all one military ... fighting the same war together."



Photo by Senior Airman James Dillard

SOUTHWEST ASIA — A transportation Airman lies "wounded" on the ground during a convoy exercise. The exercise is designed to teach Airmen traveling in a convoy how to react if a truck is disabled and casualties are sustained. Once a defensive ring is set up around the wounded and the disabled vehicle, the wounded are medically evacuated from a nearby landing zone.

March Unit Training Assembly Schedule

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, April 2, 2004			
1630	1900	Commanders' Staff Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conference Room
Saturday, April 3, 2004			
0730	0800	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	0800	Newcomers' Flight Reception	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0800	0850	Newcomers' Intro/Orientation	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0800	1100	Lab Work/DNA/HIV/Blood Testing	Bldg. 760/Lab
0820	1500	Physicals	Bldg. 760/First Floor/Pharmacy Lobby
0830	0900	Pregnancy Profiles/Weight Waivers/ Fitness for Duty (Bring DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
0830	1030	Anthrax Briefings (30 min.)	Bldg. 760/First Floor
0830	1230	NBC Defense Training (Refresher)	Bldg. 1154/Rm 119
0830	TBD	Units at Range M-16 (Classroom)	Firing Range/SFS/Combat Arms
0900	1000	Unit Duty Status Monitor Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
0900	1130	Shots (Yellow Fever, 1030-1130)	Bldg. 760/First Floor
0900	1000	Unit Safety Rep Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
0900	1100	Mask Fit Testing (as scheduled)	Bldg. 760/Second Floor
0930	1000	TDY/PCS Out-Processing	Bldg. 1056/Rm 111, DPMSA
0930	1030	Unit Deployment Managers Mtg	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
1000	1100	Gas Mask/AI Bag Issue (Newcomers)	Bldg. 848/West Side
1000	1100	Unit Deployment Managers' Mtg	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
1000	1130	1st Sgts/Family Day Mtg (all units send reps)	Golf Course Snack Bar
1230	TBD	Units at Range M-16 (Firing)	Firing Range/SFS/Combat Arms
1230	1530	CDC Testing (SNCOA Course 5&12 CD Rom Only)	Bldg. 903/DPMT
1300	TBD	Change of Command (Wing)	SOC, Bldg. 1403, Polifka Auditorium
1300	1400	Human Resources Development Council	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
1300	1500	Newcomers' MPF In-Processing	Bldg. 1056/Rm 109/
1330	1400	Fitness for Duty (Bring DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
1400	1500	Supervisors' Safety Training Mtg	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
1700	TBD	Sign Out	Orderly Room

Sunday, April 4, 2004			
0630	0700	Sign in	Orderly Room
0715	0815	PERSCO Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room
0800	0830	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 846/Classroom 2/25APS
0815	0900	MPF In-house Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room
0830	1230	NBC Defense Training	Bldg. 1154/Rm 119
0830	1130	Hazardous Cargo Training	TBD
0830	1130	Pallet Build-up/Joint Inspection	25APS (Various locations)
0830	0900	Fitness for Duty (Bring DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
0830	TBD	Units at Range M-9 (Firing)	Firing Range/SFS/Combat Arms
0900	1000	Wing Mobility Out-Processing	Bldg. 848/West Side
0930	1015	EPR Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Rm
1015	1100	EPR/OPR Monitors' Mtg	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf Room
1100	1200	Wing Career Advisors' Meeting	Bldg. 1052
1130	1230	Chief's Group Meeting	Bldg. 1461
1130	1230	SORTS/Commander Meeting	Bldg. 1055/Cmd Post
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg. 903/DPMT Classroom
1300	1400	Wing Flying Safety Mtg	Bldg. 1052/Flight Ops Brfng Rm
1300	1400	Chemical Mask Exchange	Bldg. 848/West Side
1300	1400	Honor Guard Meeting	Bldg. 1056/Cmd. Chief's Office
1330	1400	Fitness for Duty (Bring DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
1330	1430	UTA Bulletin Meeting	Bldg. 903/DPMT
1600	TBD	Sign-out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule			
Activity	Dates & hours of operation		Location/Ext.
Newcomers' Training Flight	Sun, 0630-1600		Bldg. 1056/Rm 101
MPF Customer Service	Sat, 0800-1200	Sun, 0900-1100	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
		Sun, 1200-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
ID Cards	M-F, 0630-1600 Sat, 0800-1200 1500-1700	Sun, 0700-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	M-F, 0700-1100; 1200-1600	Sat, 0800-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-6722
Fitness For Duty (Bring DD Form 689)	Sat, 0830-0900 1330-1400	Sun, 0730-0800	Bldg. 711/3-5714
Medical Records	Sat, 0800-1500	Sun, 0800-1300	Bldg. 711/3-5714
Individual Equipment	Sat, 0800-1530		Bldg. 1154/3-6020
Clothing Sales	Sat, 0900-1500		Bldg. 851/3-7505
Restricted Area Badges	M-F, 0630-1600	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 502/3-4283
Vehicle Registration	M- F, 0730-1600 Sat, 1300-1500	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 502/3-4283
			<u>Bldg. 1056/Rm 102</u>
Geneva Convention Cards	M-F, 0730-1600	Sun, 1200-1500	Bldg. 502/3-4283
Dining Hall	Sat, 0600-0930 1100-1300	Sun, 0600-0930	Bldg. 668/3-5127
		1100-1300	
Lodging office/reservations (lodging problems, contact 908th rep via lodging front desk)	1600-1830	1600-1830	
Photo lab	M-F, 0730-1630	Sun, 1300-1500	Bldg. 1573/3-2401 Bldg. 926/3-7981

April UTA Lodging

To access the Lodging Reservation System, please follow these instructions:

* Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 24 hours prior to arrival.

* Call Maxwell at 1-800-673-9356

* Input your unit's authorization code

* Dial the system at 3-8557 or 3-8558

* The system will ask for your SSAN, which you will input with the telephone keypad

* The system will ask for your personal ID number, followed by the "#" sign. (PIN is available through your First Sergeant or Services 3-7332)

* The system will ask if you would like to make, change, or cancel a reservation.

* To make a reservation, input arrival date and then departure date.

* You will be asked if the reservation is ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA)

* If this is a scheduled UTA weekend, the system will tell you where you will be staying

* If you cancel or change a reservation, you will be prompted for a phone number.

***The confirmation number you receive is for 908th Services use only.**

Note: You can also call the system direct DSN or Commercial. The numbers are: DSN 493-8557/8558 or COMM: (334) 953-8557/8558.

If you have a question please contact Master Sgt. Byron Godwin at:

Commercial: (334) 953-7332

DSN: 493-7332

E-mail: byron.godwin@maxwell.af.mil

Emergency cell: (334) 657-1304

Notice! Checkout time at Maxwell Lodging for the April UTA is 0800 Sunday. If you do not have time to go to the front desk, and do not have a phone charge, there will be a key drop box located in Bldg. 157 (Main Lodging) for your convenience. Please do not use this box if you have any charges on your bill. In accordance with AFI 34-246 **smoking is not permitted in lodging rooms.** You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.

Notice! Requests for family lodging for Family Day should be turned in to First Sergeants by COB Saturday of the April UTA.

Airlift will be lodged at the Hampton Inn, Prattville.

Aurora, III./Huntsville, Ala. Airlift Schedule

UTA pick-up schedule Friday:

Depart Maxwell at 1530 local

Arrive Aurora at 1800 local

Depart Aurora at 1830 local

Arrive Huntsville at 2030 local

Depart Huntsville at 2100 local

Maxwell at 2145 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:

Bus departs Bldg. 1056 at 1530

Depart Maxwell at 1600 local

Arrive Huntsville at 1645 local

Depart Huntsville at 1700 local

Arrive Aurora at 1900 local

Depart Aurora at 1915 local

Arrive Maxwell at 2115 local

FY 04 Unit Training Assembly Dates

May 1-2; **June 5-612-13;

July 10-11; Aug. 7-8; Sept. 11-12

****note date change**

Take Note



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

Daddy's home

Tech. Sgt. Ross (lastname withheld as a security measure), 908th Maintenance Squadron, greets his daughter, Holly, upon his return BaseX, aiding in the global war on terrorism. Two hundred and fifty 908th AW reservists, primarily aircrew members and aircraft maintenance personnel, were called to active duty for 12 months last fall to provide airlift support to Operation Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Ross is among the 185 or so unit reservists that deployed to Central Asia in December 2003. Many like Sergeant Ross have returned to their home station recently for requalification training and relaxation prior to resuming their deployment in a few six weeks. Since the events of Sept. 11, 2001, more than 350 908th Airlift Wing reservists have been activated at various stages, and have served at stateside and overseas locations.

Thumbs up

Congratulations to the following people:

Promotions

....to Master Sgt.

Gregory Benjamin,
25APS**Michael Guerin, MSG****Terry Grobels, 25APS****Cassandra Hailes,**
25APS**Michael McGill, AMS****Gregory Taylor, MXS**

....Tech. Sgt

Jujuana Alexander,
ASTS**Bishop Cochran,**
MXS**Christy Henderson,**
MXS**Jessica Leigh, ASTS****Keith Moore, MSS****Apen Phillips, AES****Nichole Stigor,**
25APS

....Staff Sgt.

Marcus Adams, LRS**Brian Harper, AMS****Jack Krystyn Jr., SFS****Rachel Lee, SFS****Loretta Moore, AW****Michael Spann, 25APS****Martin Taylor, AMS**

....Senior Airmen

Quentin Baker, LRS**Kanika Blackmon,**
LRS**Xavier Bryant, LRS****David Byars Jr., AES****Kimberly Gipson, LRS****Tamisha Harris,**
25APS**Nicolette Hayes,**
25APS**Richard Howard, SFS****Jerrell Hughes, LRS****Dana Keller, AES****LaKindra Leverett,**
ASTS**Corey Sims, 357AS****Tanya Stubbs, ASTS****Danielle Turnipseed,**
SVF

....Airman First Class

Emmanuel Brown,
LRS**George Stone, CES****Mattie Taylor, CES**

....Airman

Jessica Berry, ASTS**Reginald Dabney,**
SVF**Christopher Scholtz,**
MXS**Brandon Shorter,**
CES**Cedrea Young, SVF****Spring CCAF****graduates****Staff Sgt. Arthur**
Caffey, 908AES, Health
Care Management**Staff Sgt. Bishop**
Cochran, 908 MXS,**Aviation Maintenance**
Technology**Staff Sgt. Kellie**
Davis, 908 ASTS,**Information**
Management**Staff Sgt. Tamara**
Dunning, 908 ASTS,**Health Care**
Management**Staff Sgt. Marcus**
Martin, 908 CF,**Information Systems**
Technology

Family Day is next month

Planning is underway for the wing's annual Family Day Saturday of the May UTA. The event will be held in its usual location with fallback to the Fuel Cell in case of inclement weather. See Next month's Southern Flyer for map.

On a related note, the April's First Sergeant Meeting will double as a Family Day planning session. All units should send a representative to the meeting at the Golf Course Snack Bar Saturday, April 3 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

New for this year's Family Day is a Commander's Competition to replace the tri-cycle race and a viewer's choice motorcycle

show. Wing people who ride will display their motorcycles and vie for nominal prizes for the best looking bikes as judged by spectators. Contact Senior Master Sgt. Al McWhorter, 908MXS First Sergeant, at (334) 202-0894 for more info about the motorcycle show.

Those expecting to attend Family Day should turn in all requests for family lodging to their First Sergeants by COB Saturday of the April UTA.

Another reminder. Stricter base entry procedures are being enforced; make sure your vehicle decals are current.

Help fight against birth defects

908AW members, families and friends will help fight against birth defects through their participation in the March of Dimes "WalkAmerica 2004" event, Saturday April 26, starting at 9 a.m. at the Union Station Train Shed in downtown Montgomery.

Those interested in sponsoring a walker should contact Jasmine Hails at 953-6673 or Belinda Stoudemire at 953-5522.

Training meeting set for Sat.

All unit duty status monitors must attend a mandatory training session in the Wing Conference room Saturday, April 3 at 9 a.m. All unit 3S0X1s are urged to attend. For further details please contact Tech. Sgt. Barker at 953-3873 or Chief Master Sgt. McElwee at 953-5441.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Sara Camarata, daughter of Staff Sgt. James Camarata, tests her flying skills. Make plans now to bring your family along to enjoy the fulfilled activities of Family Day May 3. Look for details in next month's Southern Flyer or check with your First Sergeant. The 908th AW First Sergeants Council will hold a Family Day planning meeting at the Golf Course Snack Bar April 3 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. All units should send reps.

Presorted First Class
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #700

To the Family of:

908th Airlift Wing
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
Maxwell AFB